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Toronto Telegram
P-Worthington, Peter
P-De Villiers, Marg

Toronto Telegram closes Moscow office

The Toronto Telegram is closing its Moscow bureau.

The Telegram, for nearly six years the only Canadian newspaper to maintain a Moscow correspondent, says the decision was prompted by "a variety of official pressures and problems" faced by three reporters.

Peter Worthington opened the bureau in 1965. He was replaced two years later by Aaron Einfrank, now the newspaper's Washington bureau chief, who was expelled from the Soviet Union last year by Russian authorities.

The Telegram said Marg de Villiers, who succeeded Einfrank, is being withdrawn after being "formally reprimanded and accused of damaging Soviet-Canadian relations."

The Canadian Press, national news co-operative, shut down its Moscow bureau two years ago.